STAY HOME
STAY SAFE
HOTEL SIDDHARTA
NAZARABAD, MYSURU PH: 2522999

STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

Vol. 43 No. 83 Pages: 6 Rs. 2.00
Ph: 2496520 / 21 / 23 Fax: 2496530
E-mail: voice@starofmysore.com
ad@starofmysore.com

MYSURU Sunday 17th May 2020
City Offices: K.R. Circle Ph: 2431774
Devaraja Urs Road Ph: 2428695
Visit: www.starofmysore.com

REDUCE YOUR RISK OF
CORONAVIRUS
INFECTION
Clean hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub
Cover nose and mouth when coughing with tissue or flexed elbow
Avoid close contact with anyone with cold or flu-like symptoms
SOUTHERN STAR
MYSURU

KSRTC ready to ply buses with safety rules from tomorrow

● One entry, exit for passengers at Sub-urban bus stand. ● Thermal screening must for all before boarding bus. ● No inter-State and Air-Conditioned buses. ● City bus service based on number of passengers. ● Health check-up must for drivers, conductors

Mysuru, May 17 (MTY,MK & DM)- With Karnataka Government requesting the Centre to allow it to resume public transport from tomorrow (May 18) under COVID-19-induced lockdown 4.0, the KSRTC authorities in Mysuru are eagerly awaiting nod from the Government to re-start bus operations in the City and District. The authorities are expecting a direction in this regard by this evening.

The KSRTC had suspended all bus services including inter-State operations from Mar. 25, following the nationwide lockdown.

Barricades are installed at the Sub-urban Bus Stand so that passengers do not crowd while boarding or alighting from a bus. Picture right shows mask-wearing drivers and conductors on duty sanitising their hands at the Public Health Kiosk set up at Sub-urban bus stand in city.

Speaking to 'Star of Mysore' this morning, KSRTC Mysuru Rural Divisional Controller R. Ashok Kumar said that they are keenly awaiting the Government's decision. "We are fully prepared to start operations from tomorrow itself. Bus services will re-start on the date specified by the Government and it is hoped that everything will be clear by this evening," he said.

(See KSRTC on page 6)

12,000 migrants register in Mysuru to go home

Second train carrying migrant workers leaves Ashokapuram Railway Station

Mysuru, May 17 (MTY&BCT)- Over 12,158 migrants from city have registered their names in the State Government's Seva Sindhu app and web portal to go to their native villages in the Shramik Special trains operated by the Indian Railways. Of them, only 2,960 applications have been processed and the first batch of 1,520 migrant workers left for Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh yesterday.

The second Shramik Special train left the Ashokapuram Railway Station today afternoon carrying 1,440 passengers in 24 coaches to Gorakhpur. As per the data obtained from the Mysuru City Police Commissioner's Office, applications of more than 9,000 migrants seeking to go home are pending and will be processed in stages.

Most of the migrants are from Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal and a sizable number of population are from Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Odisha, Telangana and even Manipur. Interestingly, Mysuru has migrant people from Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Jammu and Kashmir, Sikkim and even Tripura.

The train carrying migrants about to leave Ashokapuram Railway Station this afternoon.

24,000 migrants

Even if one takes a conservative estimate of the migrant population settled within the city and outskirts, the number may add up to over 24,000 as not all of them want to go home. Within the city, the migrants have made Alanahalli, Ashokapuram, Devaraja Mohalla, Hebbal, Lashkar Mohalla, Mandi Mohalla, Metagalli, Nazarbad, Saraswathipuram, Udayagiri and Vijayanagar their home. Most of them live in city outskirts in sheds in under-construction buildings, single room rented accommodation where a group of six to seven men from one village live.

Some of these migrants have made Mysuru their home and have been living here since the last four to five years. They have their families here and as they cannot afford rent at the city centre, they have opted for small accommodations on the city outskirts.

Skilled workforce

They are skilled workers and a majority of them are construction workers who have expertise in building multi-floor buildings and even sky-scrapers. While the local construction workers feel dizzy as the height of the building increases, the migrants have special skills to effortlessly work even on the top of a building.

Many of them have expertise in laying vitrified tiles, welding, bar-bending, polishing, floor laying, plywood cutting and shaping, fibre work, false ceiling and interior designing. This is the reason why many plywood and tiles companies in Mysuru offer accommodation to the workers within their factory premises.

They come in groups from North India and work under a "maestri" or "Thekedar" or contractor – project contractors and piecework contractors. Money is paid to these contractors who in turn pay the workers.

(See MIGRANTS on page 6)

Mysuru KSRTC reports loss of Rs.66 crore

The KSRTC Mysuru Rural and City Divisions together have reported a loss of Rs.66 crore revenue due to the lockdown. While Rural Division suffered a daily revenue loss of Rs. 80 to 82 lakh, the City Division suffered a loss of Rs.30 to 32 lakh. In total, the City Division has recorded a revenue loss of Rs.18 crore, while the Rural Division a loss of Rs. 48 crore, totally amounting to Rs.66 crore.

Cab, auto services too awaiting nod

Just like the State-run KSRTC, autos, cabs, taxis etc., too are eagerly awaiting nod from the Government to operate. However, with the State Government awaiting clearance from the Centre, the suspense over the resumption of private public transport services, which also play a vital role in public movement, has continued and it is widely expected that the Government will allow resumption of service from tomorrow with a set of conditions.

Combating Corona in worst-hit Maharashtra needs some guts

Mysurean Dr. Meghana serves JJ Hospital in Mumbai, the hotspot of killer virus

By M.T. Yogesh Kumar

Mysuru, May 17- At a time when Maharashtra is witnessing a surge in the number of Coronavirus cases, a young lady doctor from Mysuru is not only helping Corona Warriors in Mumbai by providing food and PPE kits to them but also serving infected patients.

Maharashtra is one of the worst hit States in the country by the pandemic. The Centre has declared Mumbai as one of the hotspots of COVID in the country and various measures have been taken by the authorities to contain the spread of the virus in its densely populated slums.

Most of the residential areas in Old Mumbai have been declared as Red Zones. At this testing time, Dr. K.R. Meghana is working 14 hours per day at JJ Hospital (COVID Hospital) which is located near VT Station in Mumbai. She is not only taking care of infected patients but also managing supply of food and safety equipment to healthcare community.

Daughter of Ranganathan and Mohana Ranghanathan, residents of Vijayanagar 3rd Stage in Mysuru, Dr. Meghana completed her MBBS in Mysore Medical College and Research Institute (MMC&RI) in 2017. After serving at K.R. Hospital for one year in the OPD Department, she did her MS Ophthalmology in JJ Hospital.

Maharashtra Government has now given her the responsibility of managing COVID-19 infected patients. Dr. Meghana began her career at St. George Hospital in Mumbai which is the parent organisation of JJ Hospital. She has also been Secretary of Maharashtra Association of Resident Doctors (MARD) after winning the election.

Maharashtra worst hit

Speaking to *Star of Mysore*, Dr. Meghana said, "Compared to other States, Maharashtra is one of the worst hit States in the country. Every day, more than 100 cases are being reported. Our doctors are working in three shifts. In our hospital, in total, there are 12 wards and in each of those wards six doctors are working day and night to combat the situation. After completing our duty for seven days, we have to undergo a quarantine period for the next seven days. This routine is repeated."

"We have an ICU and a separate dialysis ward here in our hospital. If any infected patients are detected in Mumbai area, they will be brought and treated here in our hospital. We are conducting swab testing on all the inpatients on the 3rd and 14th day of admission. Unfortunately, most the people getting infected with this deadly virus are in the age group of 45 and above," she revealed.

Testing time for doctors

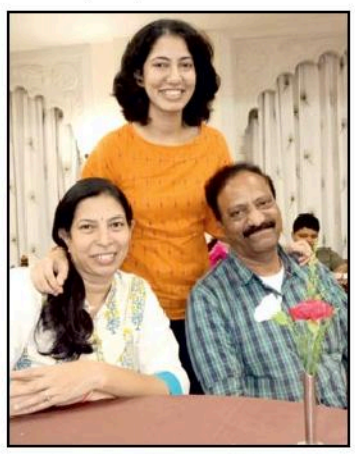
"Together with some NGOs, our MARD Association has taken the responsibility of supplying food from Taj Hotel in Mumbai to the doctors and other healthcare workers. A total of six NGOs are helping our Association to provide breakfast, lunch, evening snacks and dinner. We have also bought over 5,000 N-95 masks, PPE kits and other essentials from dealers and providing them to our healthcare workers. Yes, I agree that this is a testing time for us, but we are in this profession to serve people," she said.

"Corona is no different from fever. Maximum affected persons are those who have other co-morbidities and who are aged 50 years and more. Here, we are treating them as per the protocol. Unfortunately, as of now, there is no specific treatment or vaccine available for this condition," she added.

Dr. Meghana's parents are residing in Mysuru. Her father Ranganathan is a retired employee of Engineering Project India as General Manger and her mother Mohana Ranghanathan has worked as a teacher in Lions School.

Proud parents

Ranganathan couple told *SOM*, "Since her childhood, Meghana has been a brave kid. She did her tenth standard in Lions Sevaniketan School and PU in Sadvidya PU College, Mysuru. She had scored 100 marks in Maths. We thought she will be an engineer, but she opted for medicine. She is our only child and naturally, we are little scared. We are very proud of her. Every day, she calls us and shares her experience with us and her 95-year-old grandmother Ranganayakamma."



Dr. Meghana with her parents.

ATME students develop low-cost ventilators for COVID-19 patients

Mysuru, May 17- Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU), Belagavi, has taken an initiative to help the treatment of COVID-19 patients by promoting low-cost equipment. As part of this initiative, VTU Vice-Chancellor (VC) Dr. Karisiddappa had appealed the students and faculty members of affiliated Engineering Colleges in Karnataka to come up with innovative ideas and research projects and also assured financial assistance for the selected projects.

Final year students from Mechanical Engineering Department of ATME College of Engineering (ATMECE), Mysuru — Mohammed Shuaib Khan, Mohammed Faraaz ur Rahman, Mohammed Yousuf Khan and Shahbaz Pasha — helped by Prof. M. Karthik Kumar (Assistant Professor, Mechanical Engineering Branch), came up with an innovative product 'IoT Based Low Cost Smart Ambu-Bag Compressing Machine for Low Cost Ventilators.'

About 50 project proposals were received by VTU and after scrutiny, 28 projects were selected for the financial assistance. Selected projects were given an opportunity to present the details of the project through video-conferencing to the VTU Committee. After the successful presentation, the above said project was given permission to produce the product in consultation with the District Health Officer (DHO). This project has a potential to play a vital role in the cost-effective treatment of COVID-19 patients. The project integrates two control systems, one to supply oxygen to the patient using Ambu-Bag and the other, an alert sent to the Doctor's mobile phone whenever the patient needs an emergency attention through an IoT-based android application. For details about the project, contact Prof. M. Karthik Kumar on Mob: 98448-70275, according to a press release from the College.

VOICE OF THE READER

Entrust tax collection

responsibility to MCC Ward Officials

Sir,

The Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) has announced last date for property tax payment with 5% discount. Pandemic COVID-19 has affected every activity in our daily life. Going out for any reason is becoming scary as we, Indians, hardly care for any precautions announced by the Government in our own interest.

Despite restrictions in some of the blocks, we see people rushing out on slightest opportunity and crowding ---- whether to buy vegetables or groceries, throwing all precautions of social distancing to wind. Only a negligible percentage of people wear masks and keep distance, otherwise, it is free for all!

In view of this situation, MCC should entrust tax collection responsibility to concerned Ward Officials who can visit the residences and collect property tax at their doorstep. This will avoid crowding of people at Ward Offices which could ultimately end up in spreading the deadly virus.

This will also relieve the senior citizens who normally take up the responsibility of such payments in most of the families.

Hope, the dynamic and energetic MCC Commissioner takes the initiative early.

— M R G Murthy

Siddarthanagar

16.5.2020

Property tax: Some suggestions

Sir,

The MCC has said that one can pay property tax from May 19 at the Zonal Offices. As I feel again there will be heavy rush from the people and they will not go as per regulations of keeping distances in order to avail that 5 % discount, I have the following suggestions:

1. MCC can announce withdrawal of 5% rebate (As the Government has announced withdrawal of DA/DR payment).

2. Extend the date of tax payment up to November 2020.

3. Do not charge any interest for payment till November 2020.

By this the MCC will also get the money collected and also people will be SAFE and HEALTHY as the 5% amount will not be much of a burden to the people, when their health is compared.

— Dr. M. S. Narayan

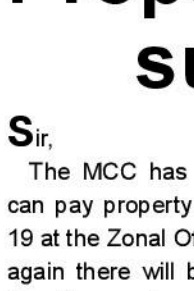
Mysuru

16.5.2020

Obituary

Centenarian G. Parameshwaran Chettiar

Mysuru, May 17- G. Parameshwaran Chettiar (100), a



kerosene dealer and a resident of Shanthinagar, passed away yesterday in city.

He leaves behind two sons, grandchildren and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at Kyathamaranahalli Burial Grounds this noon.

K. Prabhuswamy

K. Prabhuswamy (74), retired Treasury Department Officer

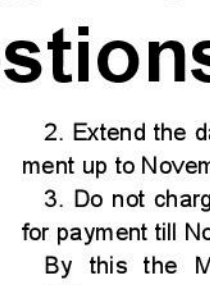
and a resident of Gowrishankaranagar, passed away yesterday in city.

A bachelor, he leaves behind his brother and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at his native place Kahalli village in Nanjangud taluk this afternoon.

Brahmana

Saragur: Brahmana (69), a Jain community leader, passed



away on Friday morning following a heart attack.

He leaves behind his wife, two daughters, and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at the Jain Community Burial Grounds.

No water supply for three days from tomorrow

Mysuru, May 17 (KS)- Owing to emergency works taken up in city, there will be no supply of water from May 18 to 20 in MCC Ward Nos. 43 (T.K. Layout), 44 (Janata Nagar) and other places, according to Vani Vilas Water Works (VVWW) Water Distribution Division Executive Engineer in a press release.

Mysuru Zoo to conduct 10-day e-Summer Camp from May 28

Mysuru, May 17 (MTY&B-NR)- The Annual Summer Camp organised by Mysuru Zoo (Sri Chamarajendra Zoological Gardens), which is one among the most-sought-after Summer Camps for students in city, will be conducted online this year, due to COVID-19 lockdown.

Mysuru Zoo is organising Summer Camp from May 28 to June 6 (11.30 am to 12.30 pm), for students aged between 12-18 years which will be an e-programme where students get to know about importance of nature and wildlife conservation and management of wild animals at Zoo. Students will have classes on animal behaviour studies, management of animals at Zoo, rescue of wild animals, conservation of water bodies, wildlife crime and laws.

Application must be filled through online portal which is available on the Zoo website [http://mysorezoo.info/]. Filled application should accompany recent passport size colour photograph, Rs. 500 fees, to be paid through online and age proof (Scanned copy of Aadhaar Card). Intimation and further details will be sent to the selected members to attend the camp.

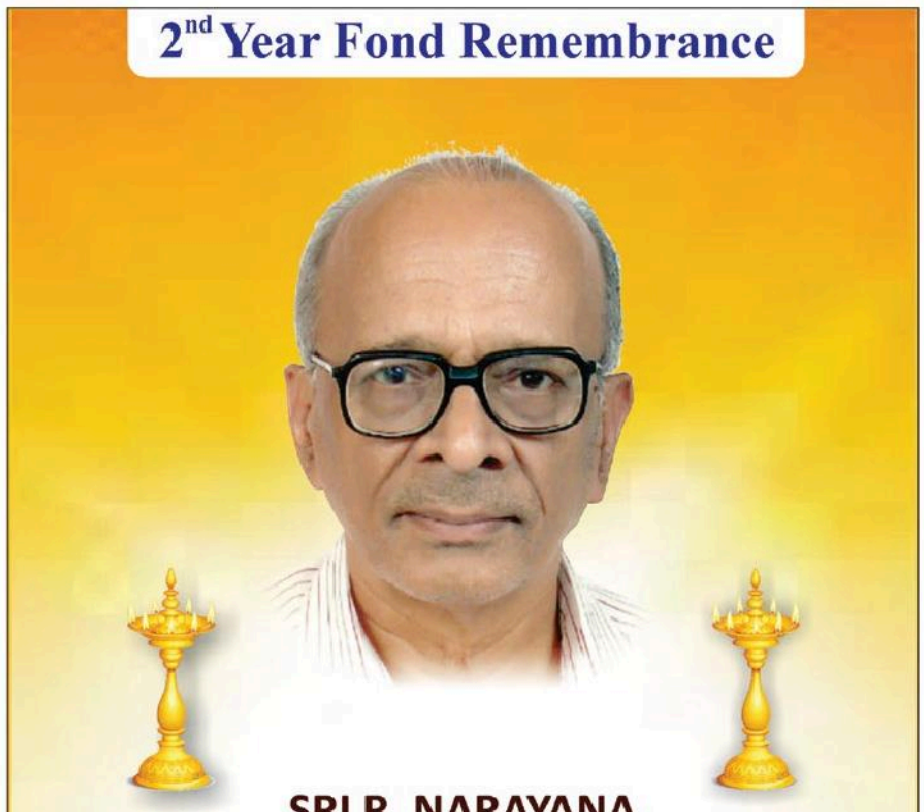
Last date to fill the application is May 26. Photograph, Age Proof (Aadhaar Card) and Transaction details should be sent via e-mail: zoomysore@gmail.com. For details, contact Ph: 0821-2520302 or Mob: 96866-68099 during office hours or visit the Zoo website.

Zoo Executive Director Ajit M. Kulkarni, speaking to *SOM*, said that every year Zoo Summer Camp used to get good response and due to limited seats, many were not getting opportunities. "This time, Zoo is closed due to lockdown. Hence, on public demand, we decided to conduct online camp. Anybody in the age group of 12-18 years may apply for the camp and the classes will be held online between 11.30 am and 12.30 am from May 28 to June 6."

Zoo animals adopted

Mysuru, May 17- Dr. Pushapa Ayyangar and Vaidehi, Mysuru, have adopted King Cobra and Flamingo of Mysuru Zoo for one year by paying Rs.20,000 under its 'Animal Adoption Scheme,' according to a press release from the Zoo Executive Director.

2nd Year Fond Remembrance



SRI R. NARAYANA

Proprietor of Raghulal & Company,
Sayaji Rao Road & Raghulal Health Mart, Vijayanagar

17.5.1937 - 17.5.2018

Those we love don't go away,
they walk beside us everyday.
Unseen, unheard, but always near;
still loved, still missed and very dear
"OM Shanthi"

— *Friends & well wishers*

Need funds to raze and re-build

Devaraja Market, Lansdowne Building: MLA

A view of Devaraja Market South side entrance and Lansdowne Building this noon.

Mysuru, May 17 (YDS&BCT)- Call it inordinate delay or procrastination, the decision to restore or demolish the nearly 120-year-old heritage structures — Devaraja Market and Lansdowne building — in the heart of the city is back in focus again and this time it is before S.T. Somashekar, who assumed charge as the new Mysuru District Minister over a month ago.

At a review meeting held on the development works of Chamaraja Constituency at Zilla Panchayat Hall in city yesterday, MLA L. Nagendra urged the Minister to get funds from the Government to demolish the dilapidated Devaraja Market and the Lansdowne Building and rebuild them in a traditional way keeping in mind all the heritage aesthetics.

"There are 54 shops in Lansdowne Building and a portion of the structure fell and lives have been lost. The building now stands desolate and it is like a black mark on the city's heritage character. It is unfit for repairs and all the vendors have been moved to make-shift structures lined up by the side of the building. We need Rs. 30 crore to demolish and re-build the structure," he said.

On Devaraja Market, the MLA said even this structure is dilapidated and a portion had collapsed. "We need Rs. 80 crore to reconstruct Devaraja Market. The issue is long-pending one and has been in the news since years. When Siddharamaiah and H.D. Kumaraswamy were running the Government, they had personally taken interest and visited the Devaraja Market and the Lansdowne Building. But nothing moved," he said.

Drawing the Minister's attention on the pro-and anti-demolition of both the structures, Nagendra said that the issue has been dragging on for too long despite many attempts. "There has to be some conclusion as some of the vendors of Devaraja Market are opposing demolition while some are for it. I urge you to visit the structures and take a suitable decision without any more delay," the MLA urged.

Welcoming the Mysuru City Corporation's (MCC) move to begin online system of tax payment, Nagendra said that the MCC levies a three-fold penalty if the tax-payers do not have CR (Completion Report). "When a tax-payer comes to the counter to pay tax, the MCC officers insist on CRs and if the tax payer does not produce it, a three-fold penalty is levied. No other Corporation except the MCC levies such a steep penalty. This deters many from paying taxes," Nagendra said urging the MCC to reduce the penalty.

Responding to the MLA, Minister Somashekar said that he will discuss the issues in the Government level. "Urban Development Minister Byrathi Basavaraj will again arrive in Mysuru in another three to four days and most of the issues raised here comes under his Ministry. We will sit together and take a decision," he said.

Deputy Commissioner Abhiram G. Sankar, MCC Commissioner Gurudatta Hegde, MUDA Commissioner Dr. D.B. Natesh and others were present at the meeting.

Somashekar seeks Nanjundeshwara's blessings for a Coronavirus-free Karnataka

Nanjangud, May 17 (RS&KS) - District Minister S.T. Somashekar, who visited Nanjangud this morning, offered special puja at the famous Srikanteshwara Temple in the town that is dedicated to the Hindu supreme deity Shiva, also called Sri Nanjundeshwara (The Lord who drank poison to save the earth) and prayed for the well-being of the State and make it Corona-free like Mysuru district.

Speaking to presspersons after offering special prayers, the District Minister said that he had prayed to the God to make the entire State free from Coronavirus soon.

Continuing, Somashekar said that with the blessings of Goddess Chamundeshwari and Lord Nanjundeshwara, Mysuru

district is now Corona-free and added that he had prayed to protect the people of Karnataka.

Regarding opening of temples, the Minister said that discussions were going on and a decision in this regard would be taken after examining the guidelines by the Centre.

MLA B. Harshavardhan, BJP leader H.V. Rajeev and others accompanied the Minister.

Jubilant Generics allowed to re-open subject to conditions

Nanjangud MLA Harshavardhan spells out Government move in the interest of Company employees

Mysuru, May 17 (RS&BCT)- Nanjangud-based Jubilant Generics, an extended arm of Jubilant Life Sciences, will be allowed to re-start operations from Nanjangud with certain conditions and the Company management has come forward to adopt 10 villages contributing to their overall development, said Nanjangud MLA B. Harshavardhan.

The MLA said that the Company has also agreed to distribute 50,000 food and ration kits to villagers who reside in the Company's vicinity.

Mysuru turned Red Zone after 74 employees from Jubilant Generics were tested COVID-19 positive and the source of the virus still remains a mystery.

Harshavardhan was the first elected representative who demanded a probe into how one of the employees contracted the virus that spread to 74 prompting the declaration of Red Zone in Mysuru. Following his insistence, the State Government ordered a probe under the leadership of senior IAS Officer Harsha Gupta. However, the investigation did not throw any light on the actual source of the virus.

Ever since positive cases started emerging from the Temple Town, the Mysuru District Administration declared Nanjangud as a cluster case and the production at the Unit was shut as all the over 1,000 employees were quarantined along with their primary and secondary contacts.

"The Company has to take the responsibility of the employees and take maximum precautions to prevent such negligence in the near future. The Plant management will be responsible for whatever happens in the Company," he said.

'Remdesivir' for COVID-19

"Jubilant Generics has entered into a licensing agreement with US-based Gilead Sciences to manufacture and sell Gilead's investigational drug 'Remdesivir', a potential therapy for COVID-19 in 127 countries. In the light of this, the Company has requested the State Government to permit it to open its Nanjangud facility. Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa, Industries Minister Jagadish Shettar and Mysuru District Minister S.T. Somashekar held a meeting with the company officials and certain conditions have been imposed," Harshavardhan said.

"As the Company is manufacturing Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients for COVID-19 drug and keeping in mind the interests of over 1,000 employees in the Nanjangud Plant, the State Government has directed the Company to fulfil its obligations and allowed it to open conditionally," the MLA added.

Seers launch mega grocery kits distribution drive by former Chamaraja MLA Vasu

Mysuru, May 17 (PM&BNR)- Vidya Vikas Educational Institutions Chairman and former Chamaraja MLA Vasu, along with his family members, distributed grocery kits to thousands of people near Mahadeshwara Temple in Paduvarahalli this morning. Each kit contained ragi flour, rice, green gram, black eyed beans, dal, salt, sugar, cooking oil and other grocery items.

Present on the occasion were Suttur Seer Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Swamiji, Adichunchanagiri Seers Sri Nirmalanandanatha Swamiji and Sri Someshwaranatha Swamiji, Prof. M. Krishnegowda, MCC Additional Commisssioner N.M. Shashikumar and others.

Vasu said that he was doing whatever was possible to the people who were in distress due to Corona outbreak. "I am not doing this only in Chamaraja constituency but have also done this in other constituencies earlier with the help of party members in selecting beneficiaries. Today, it was possible to do in a bigger way at Paduvarahalli coming under Chamaraja constituency; nearly 3,000 people are being distributed with grocery kits today. This is not first and this will not even be the last. I wish to donate more in the coming days. I will do whatever is possible by me and will continue further with the co-operation of my friends."

Woman's gold chain snatched in broad daylight

Mysuru, May 17 (KS)- Bike-borne miscreants have snatched the gold chain of a 50-year-old woman in broad daylight near Jain Bhavan at Kakarawadi in city yesterday afternoon.

The woman, who lost her 20 grams gold chain worth Rs. 75,000, is Mangalamma of Kakarawadi.

Mangalamma, who had been to a shop, was on her way home, when two miscreants, who came on a bike from behind, managed to yank off only a part of the gold chain as she held on to her gold chain.

Lakshmipuram Police Inspector Gangadhar and staff, who rushed to the spot, conducted mahazar besides registering a case.

Chain snatchers, who were silent during lockdown period, have begun their illegal activity following lockdown relaxation. Lakshmipuram Police, who have collected CCTV footages, have launched a hunt to nab the miscreants.

Lockdown relaxation

Traffic signal lights go Red & Green after two months

Mysuru, May 17 (RK&KS)- The traffic signal lights which were stopped due to lockdown has begun to function since Friday in city.

Following the relaxation of lockdown rules phase by phase, the Traffic Police personnel are now switching on the traffic signal lights across the city from 9 am to 9 pm. As movement of vehicles were banned since two months, traffic signal lights too were switched off.

Now, traffic signal lights at all 52 junctions in city have been switched on and motorists should follow the traffic rules and regulations. As many motorists are found violating traffic rules, the violations are captured by CCTV cameras and the Police are sending notices to the address of the violators through the Traffic Management Centre.

Some barricades that were installed across many roads have been removed on May 15, while a few barricades have been retained and the Police are seen manning the places.

The Police have urged motorists to follow traffic rules and carry all relevant documents while driving or riding and produce the same during checking.

City Clubs offer discounts to clear beer stocks

Some Clubs suffer losses due to Government's limited window period for sale and expiry date for beer

Mysuru, May 17 (RK&BCT)- Litres of beer is set to flow down the drain as some of the reputed sports and recreation clubs in city have not been able to sell their beer stocks and are staring at revenue loss. Even if some clubs managed to clear the stocks, they had to offer discounts to their patrons.

Desperate to get rid of old stocks piled up due to lockdown since Mar. 24 midnight, the Karnataka Government on May 8 allowed pubs, bars, clubs and restaurants across the State to also sell liquor at retail prices from till May 17 (today). The order was applicable to standalone CL-4 (clubs), CL-7 (hotels and lodges) and CL-9 (bars and restaurants) outlets.

But clubs in city are crying foul that no time was given to them to clear their stocks and the permission to sell stocks came with a lot of riders. Jayachamaraja Wadiyar Golf Club (JWGC) has to bear a loss of nearly Rs. 1 lakh. C.S. Ravishankar, President of the Golf Club told 'Star of Mysore' that branded beer, draught beer and normal beer worth over Rs. 1 lakh were left unsold.

"The lockdown was sudden and our club was sealed with no advance notice. Though we were permitted to sell our stocks from May 9, we could not do so. Since beer has an expiry date, we cannot stock them up for future sale," he said and added that like standalone wine shops, clubs, bar and restaurants too must be allowed to procure fresh stocks.

If there was some kind of advance notice, the Club could have sold the stocks to members by offering discounts. "We could even donate the money to the CM's Relief Fund. It is a missed opportunity," he said. Ravishankar said that banning liquor only helped people who made money by selling stocks in black market.

Scramble to empty stocks

Sri Kanteerava Narasimharaja Sports Club (Mysore Sports Club), however, did not face any losses but there was a scramble to empty stocks. President of the Club Sanjay K. Shetty said that due to beer's expiry date and limited time, they had to rush with the sales among members. "We emptied the stocks that were up to 8 to 10 cases of beer. Fortunately, we did not face any loss," he said.

Chairman of Mysore Race Club (MRC) Dr. N. Nithyanand Rao said that within two days of opening, the beer and Indian-made liquor stocks at the Club were exhausted. "We managed to sell the beer within the expiry date and also well within the Govt. deadline," he said.

C. Narayanagowda, President of Cosmopolitan Club, said they had a beer stock for three months. "There were 140 cases of beer and due to lockdown, we were apprehensive. But within four to five days after opening, we managed to sell our beer stocks," he revealed.

The J.P. Nagar Club had accumulated 36 bottles of beer and 12 pints. "As the Government deadline ends today, we have to bear with the loss of over Rs. 7,000," said J.P. Nagar Club President Basavaraju.

Discounts on offer

Many clubs like Heritage Club in Vijayanagar, Viveka Social Club in Vivekanandanagar and Vijayanagar Sports Club had limited stocks of beer and as such they could sell them to their patrons. However, V.S. Prakash, President of Vontikoppal Club, admitted that they had to scramble to clear stocks. "The Government's window period to clear the stocks was too less and we had to clear stocks before the deadline by offering beer discounts to our members," he said.

KSRTC ready to ply buses

KSRTC buses washed and parked at Bannimantap depot.

(Continued from page 1)

Only one entry, exit: Explaining the measures taken by the KSRTC, Ashok Kumar said that there will be only one point of entry for passengers at the Sub-urban Bus Stand (the passenger path leading inside the bus stand from the centre of the bus stand complex) and all passengers are required to undergo thermal screening before boarding the bus.

A maximum of 30 passengers are allowed in a bus in keeping with social distancing norms. Face masks are compulsory and every passenger should use hand sanitiser which is available at the entry point. There will be only one exit point for passengers, he clarified and added that social distancing will be strictly maintained at the bus stand, for which square box markings have been drawn in yellow at all passenger platforms.

Entry of buses to the stand has been streamlined with the erection of barricades, in order to avoid crowding of buses inside the stand. He further clarified that there will be no Inter-State and Air-Conditioned bus services for now. All buses are washed and sanitised and the windows, seats, doors and window screens have been cleaned using water mixed with disinfectants, he added.

KSRTC and Police personnel in front of the Police Out-Post at the bus stand platform where boxes are marked for social distancing.

City bus service: KSRTC Mysuru City Divisional Controller S.P. Nagaraj said that city buses will start operating once the Government gives nod. However, due to Corona scare, there may be less number of passengers and buses will be operated based on the number of passengers for now. Thermal screening of passengers is mandatory and he has written to the Health Department to depute health staff to screen passengers.

Health check-up must for drivers, conductors: It is compulsory for drivers, conductors and all other staff to wear face masks and all drivers and conductors have to undergo health check-ups and only those producing health certificates will be allowed to report for duty.

Meanwhile, all KSRTC Depots in the city too are geared up to re-start bus operations. The City Division, with a fleet of 448 buses, has four depots — Bannimantap, Sathagalli, Vijayanagar and Kuvempunagar — while the Rural Division which has control over 700 buses, has depots in Bannimantap (Depots 1,2 & 3) in the city and at Periyapatna, Hunsur, H.D. Kote & K.R. Nagar.

Rotary West donates 1,500 masks to DHO

Mysuru, May 17- Rotary Club of Mysore West (RMW) President Rtn. Reginald Wesley, Dr. Sonia Mandappa and Rtn. Ullas Pandit met Mysuru District Health Officer (DHO) Dr. Venkatesh at his office in Nazarbad recently and donated 1,500 cloth masks for ASHA Workers who will be soon deputed to conduct door-to-door survey for identifying and reporting suspected COVID-19 cases in Mysuru district. The DHO was happy to receive the donation of masks and thanked RMW profusely for making this timely and useful donation of masks which will give ASHA Workers the protection and the confidence to carry out their onerous task.

The District ASHA Co-ordinator and Trainer, who was also present, thanked Rotary.

Vid. Manasa Nayana to give online lec-dem tomorrow

Mysuru, May 17- Vid. Manasa Nagana will be presenting a lecture-demonstration on the Raga Yadukula Kambhoji on the Facebook page of Yadugiri Yathiraja Mutt tomorrow (May 18) between 7 pm and 8 pm.

Interested may either catch him live on Zoom platform (https://zoom.us/f/98489059277; Password: 441821) or on the Facebook page (https://m.facebook.com/yathirajamutt/).

12,000 migrants register in Mysuru to go home

(Continued from page 1)

Roadside snacks

If not construction work, these migrants eke out a living selling roadside snacks and work in chat and sweet-meat shops. Many migrants from North East sell momos, which is a craze among the youth. The Hootagalli and Hebbal Industrial area has considerable population of migrants where they work in boilers and factories.

Industry stakeholders say that their migration to their hometowns may not be an issue now as all the construction industries and factories are working now with 30 percent of workers. "But in the longer run, the migration will have a negative impact on the Mysuru's industrial growth, especially the construction industry," say experts. Some of them are even hoping for a reverse migration once the COVID-19 situation eases out in the coming months.

Power disruption

Mysuru, May 17 (KS)- Due to emergency works at Devanur, Hura and Suttur Power Distribution Centres of Nanjangud CESC Division, there will be no supply of power between 10 am and 5 pm on May 19 at Tagadur, Badanavalu, Chunchanahalli, Gattavadipura, Karya, Alaganchi, Hedatale, Konanur, Nerale, Hemmaragala, Kavalande, Hura, Hadya, Hallare, Devarayashettypura, Hediyala, Suttur, Nagarle, Biligere, Mallopura and other places.

COVID-19 UPDATE

MYSURU

Persons observed till date	:	5,454
Persons who have completed 14 days' isolation	:	4,769
Persons isolated in home for 14 days (Inter-State travellers)	:	685
Persons isolated in hospital for active cases	:	0
Total samples tested	:	6,137
Samples found negative	:	6,047
Samples found positive (cumulative)	:	90
Persons cured / discharged	:	90
Death toll so far in Mysuru	:	0

MANDYA

Total positive cases in Mandya	:	72
Persons cured / discharged	:	27
Death toll so far in Mandya	:	0

KARNATAKA & INDIA

Total positive cases in Karnataka	:	1,147
Persons cured / discharged	:	509
Death toll so far in Karnataka	:	37
Total active cases in India	:	53,946
Persons cured / discharged	:	34,108
Death toll so far in India	:	2,872

(Note: Figures till 5 pm)

Printed by T.S. Gopinath and published by M. Govinde Gowda on behalf of Academy Newspapers Private Limited at Academy Newspapers Private Limited, 15-C, Industrial 'A' Layout, Bannimantap, Mysuru-570 015. Editor: M. Govinde Gowda. Phone: 2496520/2496521/2496523/ 2496526/2496527/2496528 Fax: 0821-2496525, 2496530. City offices: Visveshwaraya Building, III Floor, K.R. CIRCLE, Mysuru-570 001, Ph: 2431774 and No. 114, D.Devaraj Urs Road, Mysuru-570 001, Ph: 2428695, E-mail address: voice@starofmysore.com, For Advertisements: ad@starofmysore.com, RNI Reg. No. 29894/78.